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ular attraction of the health building, staged by the Hennepin County (Minneapolis) Public Health Nurses. Reasonably patient anglers fished out—not

fishes—but “health fortunes,”—predictions for weal or woe according to the observance or neglect of the laws of healthful living.

A RECRUITING CAMPAIGN

BY MARY MAY PICKERING, R.N.

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THE Young Woman's Christian Association has played an important part in the lives of the nursing students of San Francisco for some time. The National Board of the Y. W. C. A. has for three years financed a secretary who has given her entire time to the work with students in the nursing schools of this city. This secretary is shared by all the hospitals that wish to have “Y” activities carried on in their school. In addition to the work which she has been doing among the students themselves she has recently undertaken and successfully carried through a campaign to stimulate interest in nursing among high school girls. This campaign is unusual in that the appeal was made almost entirely through the student nurses themselves to the high school students.

A survey of the hospitals by the Y secretary showed that a majority of the students in the nursing schools of the city were from small towns near by. With this in mind the principals of fifty-six high schools within a radius of one hundred and twenty miles of San Francisco were invited to send student body representatives to be week-end guests of the San Francisco nursing schools.

Sixty-five delegates, each with a red bow on her coat lapel, arrived in the upstairs waiting room of the Ferry Building at 3 p. m. on May 6. They were met by nursing students from the various hospitals. Each hospital had previously agreed upon the number it could accommodate overnight, and during the afternoon the delegates were shown about the hospitals by the student nurses who were acting as hostesses and were taken to dinner in the nurses' dining room by these hostesses. In this way the visitors received their impressions of interesting bits of hospital and nursing life from the students' point of view.

In the evening an informal party was given at the city Y. W. C. A. for the high school girls and nurses. Old time games, such as nine pins, suit case races, and ball relay were played and each successful participant received a jelly bean as a prize. Refreshments, school songs and yells contributed to the fun. The unqualified success of the evening was due to the contagious enthusiasm of the secretary as she personally led the games. The delegates spent the night in the various nurses' homes. On Sunday morning many of them had short informal talks with the Superin-

tendents of Nurses about nursing. A definite effort was made to refrain from advertising individual schools or to stress the need for students. Upon their return to their homes the representatives were given the opportunity to speak before their respective student bodies. Letters received later by the secretary testify as to the interest created by the visits.

In the second plan, designed to reach the girls of San Francisco itself, a short recruiting play was given before the girl students of the various high schools. The play was obtained by offering a prize of \$25. (donated by the various hospitals) to the student nurse who would send in the best production by May ¹¹. The cast consisted of nursing students from the various hospitals. After hours of coaching and rehearsal the play was produced. Directly after each presentation a student nurse in uniform made a short speech giving information about the life of a nursing

student and the opportunities in the nursing profession. A good speaker was chosen for this who emphasized service in the nursing field in a way that seemed to appeal strongly to the girl audiences. The play was given six times and was always enthusiastically received.

A campaign of this type requires a great deal of work on the part of some one. In this case the Professional Students' Secretary carried the greater part of the burden on her shoulders; she arranged all the details; furnished the enthusiasm for the Y party; made arrangements for all the delegates at the different hospitals; made many diplomatic calls on various members of the Board of Education for permission to present the play in the schools; and managed the whole campaign in a masterly manner.

It is not expected that the campaign will bear immediate fruit. Hundreds of girls were told something about nursing, given a glimpse of its fascination for its followers; out of these hundreds, it is safe to predict there will be many who will cherish the seeds of interest that were planted and who will someday want to contribute their bit of service by joining the ranks.

¹Schools or organizations desiring to obtain copies of the charming and lively one-act play, "Conversion While You Wait," should communicate with Miss Bertha Beard, University of California School for Nurses, 610 Parnassus Avenue, San Francisco.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS

A former private duty nurse says she used to find a small box of Urotropin tablets a convenience. Two tablets ignited with a match will furnish heat enough to boil the water for a hypodermic.—CARRIE E. CATLEN, *Iowa*.

It is usually a trial to put small children under an inhalation tent, but it may be made a pleasure by calling the tent arrangement, the circus tent, and carrying out the illusion by giving the child all her toy animals inside. The vaporizer which usually frightens them so, can then be called the peanut stand that all good circuses have outside the tent! If the treatment is to last for any length of time, read an animal story to the little patient at the same time.—ROSE E. ROGERS, *California*.